

REMARKS

Applicant has now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of October 26, 2007. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 16, 17 and 19-29 have been withdrawn.

In this response, Applicant amended selected claims to provide a more complete scope of protection for the present invention and present clarifying remarks believed to address the Examiner's rejections and place the claims in condition for allowance.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejections

Claims 1 and 7-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doyle (Published Application No. US 2002/0130473) ("Doyle") in view of Jones et al. (Published Application No. US 2002/0191059) ("Jones"). The Examiner acknowledged that Doyle does not disclose the following claim limitations: a housing having a chamber formed therein for receiving ink and a surface including an outlet passage communicating with the chamber and through which ink is dispensed and an air impermeable, non-porous seal member.

Jones were deemed to disclose a housing having a chamber formed therein for receiving ink and a surface including an outlet passage communicating with the chamber and through which ink is dispensed and an air impermeable, non-porous seal member. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to modify the seal member taught by Doyle with Jones in order to provide low leak rates.

Claim 1 has been modified to recite that the V-shaped first surface and the V-shaped second surface extend between opposite sidewalls of the seal member (see Fig. 3, sidewall 59 of present invention). Doyle does not teach or suggest a seal member which has substantially V-shaped surfaces extending between opposite sidewalls of the seal member. Doyle, in contrast, teaches a circular ridge 23 which projects axially from axial end surfaces 11 and 17. The ridge 23 divides the first axial surface 11 into an inner axial end surface 13 and an outer axial end surface 15. Similarly, ridge 23 projecting from second surface 17 divides the surface 17 into inner

axial end surface 19 and an outer axial end surface 21. Thus, Doyle teaches that the ridge forms two end surfaces on opposite sides of the ridge on surfaces 11 and 17. Thus, Doyle does not teach or suggest a V-shaped surface extending between opposed sidewalls of the seal. Rather, Doyle teaches away from a V-shaped surface extending between sidewalls of the seal. Indeed, Doyle teaches that it is an object of the invention of Doyle that the inner surfaces 13, 19 on one side of ridge 23 be recessed with respect to outer surfaces 15 and 21 to produce an offset (see Fig. 3 of Doyle).

Jones also does not teach or suggest V-shaped ridges extending between sidewalls of the seal. Accordingly, claim 1, and claims 3-14 dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doyle and Jones, and further in view of Putman et al. (Published Application No. US 2003/0081085) ("Putman"). The Examiner acknowledged that Doyle as modified does not disclose a cap member having a recess for receiving an outlet passage. Putman were deemed to disclose a cap member having a recess for receiving an outlet passage. The Examiner deemed that it would have been obvious to modify the ink container of Doyle as modified by Putman. Claims 3, 5 and 6 depend from amended claim 1 and are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doyle and Jones, and further in view of Qingguo et al. (Published Application No. US 2003/0128257) ("Qingguo") and Putman.

The Examiner acknowledged that Doyle as modified does not disclose the outer terminal end of the outlet passage including a generally triangular-shaped rib extending at least partially along a circumference thereof for contacting and thermally bonding the cap to the outlet passage. Qingguo were deemed to disclose the outer terminal end of the outlet passage including a generally triangular-shaped rib extending at least partially along a circumference thereof. The Examiner deemed that it would have been obvious to modify the ink container taught by Doyle in view of Qingguo.

Putman were deemed to disclose an outer terminal end of the outlet passage including a rib extending at least partially along a circumference thereof for contacting

and thermally bonding the cap to the outlet passage. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to modify the ink container of Doyle in view of Putman.

Claim 4 depends from amended claim 1 and is also in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above.

CONCLUSION

All formal and informal matters have been addressed. For the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application (i.e., claims 1 and 3-14) are now in condition for allowance.

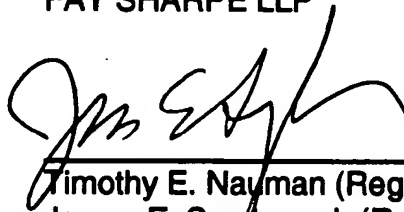
No additional fee is believed to be required for this Amendment. If, however, a fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

In the event the Examiner believes a telephone call would expedite prosecution, he is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY SHARPE LLP

Date: 2/26/08



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